

Geological traces of historical and pre-historical tsunamis in the lake bed layers of four lagoons on the south coast of Honshu Island, Japan

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Abstract. In order to make clear the recurrence of the major Tokai Earthquakes, we took piston core samples of the lake bed sediments in four lagoons on the south coast of Honshu Island, Japan and detected traces of historical and pre-historical tsunamis. Eminent traces of tsunamis of major Tokai Earthquakes were detected in core samples obtained in Lake Hamana. Carbon 14 dating shows that eminent tsunamis broke out in the years of 590 ± 60 BP, 820 ± 60 BP, 3420 ± 90 BP, and 3850 ± 80 BP. The first trace probably corresponds to the tsunami of the 1498 Meio-Tokai Earthquake, which was also detected as a sharp stripe on the vertical profile of the echo-sounding map.

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